

Appl. No.: 10/674,956

Amdt. Dated August 19, 2005

Response to Office Action Mailed May 19, 2005

REMARKS:

Applicant appreciates the time and care the examiner has taken in examining the application.

Amendment. In the amendment above, twenty claims are presented, namely, claims 1-15 and 21-23 drawn to a device, and claims 24-25 drawn to methods of manufacturing the device. Claims 1-2, 6-7, 10, 12-13 and 15 are amended herein. Claims 16-20 have been cancelled herein. New claims 21-25 are presented herein.

Response to Objection. The objection has been obviated by amendment of claim 7 to become a device claim, and by cancellation of method claims 16-20. It is submitted that the amendment, presenting the new independent method claims 24-25, obviates the objection in the Office action.

Response to Rejections. The rejections under Sections 102(b) and 103(a) are hereby traversed with respect to the claims as presented herein, for at least the following reasons.

The claims as presented contain features distinct from those disclosed in the cited reference, Lean et al., U.S. Patent No. 3,791,715. In all of the independent claims in this application, the optical wave guide element and the optical fiber are specified to be positioned at an angle of approximately 90° to one another. The independent claims all specify the route of the propagating light wave and this angle. This feature is described in the specification at p. 3, lines 4-10, and p. 14, lines 11-17, and is shown in Fig. 2. The benefit of this feature, also explained in the specification at p. 3, lines 4-10, and p. 14, lines 11-17, is to allow for miniaturization of the entire device.

Lean et al does not disclose such a feature, nor does the combination of the cited references

teach or suggest the feature. In Lean et al, the angle formed between the optical fiber 14 and the thin film waveguide 12 is 45° as can be seen in Fig. 1 of Lean et al .

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the claims as presented are neither anticipated nor rendered obvious under the applicable legal standards, and that even the combination of the cited art would neither teach nor suggest the claimed invention.

It is submitted that the invention is presented in clear and concise patentable terms, that all objections and rejections have been properly addressed herein, and that the application is in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees under 37 CFR §1.17(a) for any necessary extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136(a) for response to the Office action, which extension is hereby requested, to Deposit Account No. 50-0305 of Chapman and Cutler LLP.

The examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned with any questions or comments so that efforts may be made to promptly resolve any remaining issues. It is respectfully submitted that all of the objections and requirements of the Office Action have been met, and early, favorable treatment of this application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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